

Replace the last paragraph on page 4, beginning at line 17 and continuing onto page 5 ending at line 2, with the following paragraph.

A2
Coronary by-pass, angioplasty, and atherectomy procedures have all been found effective in treating individual stenotic lesions in relatively large blood vessels. However, the heart muscle is perfused with blood through a network of small vessels and capillaries. In some cases, large numbers of stenotic lesions may occur in a large number of locations throughout this network of small blood vessels and capillaries. The torturous path and small diameter of these blood vessels limit access to the stenotic lesions. The sheer number and small size of these stenotic lesions make techniques such as cardiovascular by-pass surgery, angioplasty, and atherectomy impractical.

Replace the first paragraph on page 5, beginning on line 3 with the following paragraph.

A3
When techniques which treat individual lesions are not practical, percutaneous myocardial revascularization (PMR) may be used to improve the oxygenation of the myocardial tissue. A PMR procedure generally involves the creation of holes, craters or channels directly into the myocardium of the heart. In a typical PMR procedure, these holes are created using radio frequency energy delivered by a catheter having one or more electrodes near its distal end. After the wound has been created, therapeutic agents are sometimes ejected into the heart chamber from the distal end of a catheter.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application.

The January 8, 2002, Office Action identifies two species and several sub-species and alleges that the application contains no generic claims. Consistent with this allegation and pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 121, the Office Action requests that the Applicants elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits "to which the claims may be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable."

In response to this allegation, the Applicants request reconsideration given that they believe that claim 1, as currently drafted, is generic to each of the various identified species